

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 12, 14 – 36, and 38 – 45 remain in the present application. Claims 1, 11, 15, 17, 18, 21, 25, 35, 39, 41, 42, and 45 have been amended.

Claims 1 – 12, 14 – 36, and 38 – 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. More specifically, it is allegedly unclear with respect to “base feature”, “feature”, and “reference feature”. Claims 1, 11, 15, 17, 18, 21, 25, 35, 39, 41, 42, and 45 have been amended to more clearly distinguish the various features. Applicants submit that the amended claims clearly distinguish between the various “features”, whereby reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 – 12, 14 – 36, and 38 – 45 are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 – 12, 14 – 36, and 38 – 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Landers. Landers is devoid of any teaching or suggestion of:

converting an existing vertically structured CAD/CAM model to a horizontally structured CAD/CAM model by:

restructuring each dependency for each said modeling feature for placement with respect to the horizontal model, such that each said modeling feature exhibits a direct associative relationship with a reference feature, said restructuring including:

determining if said modeling feature is dependent on an existing datum for placement;

if said modeling feature is dependent on an existing datum for placement, then performing at least one of:

configuring a new reference feature for placement of said modeling feature wherein said reference feature is a descendent of said parent coordinate system and establishing an associative relationship between said modeling feature and said new reference feature, then deleting said dependency,

reconfiguring said existing datum as a descendant of said parent coordinate system; and

establishing an associative relationship with at least one of said parent coordinate system and a descendent reference feature therefrom and deleting said dependency; and

restructuring each dependency for each said modeling feature for positioning with respect to the horizontal model, such that each said modeling feature exhibits a direct associative relationship with another reference feature

emphasis added, as recited by claim 1.

Landers does disclose horizontally structured CAD/CAM modeling. However, Landers does not disclose converting an existing vertically structured CAD/CAM model to a horizontally structured CAD/CAM model. In converting an existing vertically structured CAD/CAM model to a horizontally structured CAD/CAM model it is required to perform the recited restructuring and reconfiguring. When simply building a horizontally structured CAD/CAM model, one would have no need to perform such restructuring and reconfiguring. Landers simply structures and configures for the first time, i.e., not a conversion.

Independent claims 21 and 45 have limitations similar to the ones discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, whereby the same comments would be applicable to those claims.

Accordingly, applicants submit that claims 1, 21, and 45 are not anticipated by Landers. Dependent claims 2 – 12, 14 – 20, 22 – 36, and 38 – 44 are also not anticipated by Landers, as depending from the above-discussed independent claims. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 – 12, 14 – 36, and 38 – 45 are respectfully requested.

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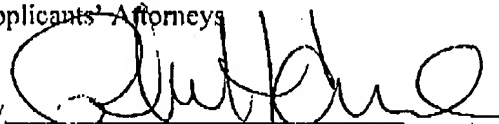
If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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